

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of

Annual Assessment of the Status of
Competition in the Market for the
Delivery of Video Programming

MB Docket No. 12-203

**COMMENTS OF
Foxboro Cable Access, Inc.**

Foxboro Cable Access (FCA) submits these comments in response to the above-captioned Notice of Inquiry (“NOI”), released July 20, 2012, seeking “data, information, and comment on the state of competition in the delivery of video programming.”

Foxboro Cable Access is an independent non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that runs the community television station for the municipality of Foxborough, Massachusetts. We are organized to provide and actively promote public local cable channels for interested Foxborough residents who want to produce and/or cablecast video programming of local interest. We are a group of dedicated individuals committed providing the equipment, resources and environment needed to encourage local cable access.

1. Foxborough, Massachusetts has two (2) MVPD providers: Comcast Xfinity and Verizon FiOS. Both MVPD providers allocate three cable channels for use by FCA.
2. These channels are placed on the lowest tier of cable provided. If residents only have analog television sets they require a digital converter box to receive this basic service.

3. There are more channels carried since June of 2010.
4. Unfortunately our MVPD providers do not allow for distribution of our programming schedule on the systems on-screen program guide. Our programming schedule is published and available in several different formats: the local newspaper often includes a condensed version of the schedule in their weekly paper, residents can navigate to our website for complete schedule listings, the schedule is posted on the PEG channel's bulletin board system, which runs between normal programming.
5. We are not in an AT&T U-Verse community.
6. The organization was notified in 2007 that the Comcast-provided studio space "will no longer be available to Foxboro Cable Access" at the end of the term of the cable license. The relocation process was extremely difficult and disruptive to the organization. Funding for the relocation effort was unknown due to ongoing renewal license negotiations. There were limited spaces and/or building locations that were affordable and/or appropriate for the long-term stability of the organization. The process was lengthy and cumbersome, but a location was finally acquired in August 2009 that was a great fit for the organization. Despite the struggles, FCA programming continued to grow in utilization, viewership, relevance, variety, and quality. This can be tied directly to a few factors:

First, community leaders continue to support our efforts and have allowed the organization to leverage a municipal fiber network for the benefit of PEG operations. The fiber network allowed FCA to more than double the amount of live programming from remote locations around the community. The network replaced a 20 year old MVPD maintained coaxial I-NET, and has also vastly improve signal quality of live productions.

Second, the organization had production assets distributed around the community including: three multi-camera cablecast consoles, a mobile unit (TV truck), and various portable equipment (camcorders, lights, microphones), which allowed production activity to continue during the relocation.

Third, we are located in a state (Massachusetts) that has largely been able to resist the legislative changes that have decimated community media across the nation during a time when it is most needed to grow.

Fourth, we have embraced the concept of our PEG center as a community media center. Modern television is not limited to the parameters which defined it only a short time ago. A modern community media center needs to embrace all forms of multimedia production and support for that should be provided by similar revenues to fund this public good as generated by internet providers and traffic over those same public lines.

Michael R. Webber

Executive Director

Foxboro Cable Access, Inc.

9/7/12